

U. S. Commissioners, July 4, 1817, from Correspondence of Andrew Jackson. Edited by John Spencer Bassett.

U. S. COMMISSIONERS TO THE CHEROKEE COMMITTEE.¹

¹ In Jackson's handwriting. Signed by Jackson, Joseph McMinn, and David Meriwether, as commissioners.

“ Cher[ok]ee Council House In Open Council ” July 4, 1817.

Finding that our Talk has not been understood we give the following explanation—

first all who choose to go to the arkansaw freely to make their cho[i]ce—Those who choose to remain to do so, Those who stay and choose to become citizens of the u states shall have a reservation, as proposed those who choose to stay, and do not want to become citizens of the u states, to remain as they now are. The promise of the President to the arkansaw, must be fulfilled, we are bound to do so, If the chiefs of this nation will point out the proportionate part for the arkansaw, where it is most convenient to this nation we will receive it, on all subjects we wish to explain what is not understood, and will at all times explain when asked. We recommend again a friendly intercourse between you and your Brothers on the arkansaw.